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NOTES AND NEWS

The following article is taken from Science, May 12, 1922:

The teaching of evolution in the Baptist denominational schools in Texas is being investigated as heretical. The denomination is strong in membership and maintains about fifteen colleges and seminaries in the state, the chief of which is Baylor University at Waco. It appears that the trouble arose as the result of the publication in 1920, by the Baylor University Press itself, of an "Introduction to the Principles of Sociology," by Grove Samuel Dow, Professor of Sociology in Baylor University. The book is based upon the theory of evolution wherever it touches upon the biological aspects of sociology, although the term biological evolution is scarcely or not at all used in the text. At a recent conference of representatives of the Baptists of all parts of the state, such teachings were pronounced heresy, and a sweeping investigation is being made of all of the Baptist schools of the state to determine how much "heresy" is being taught. Professor Dow has resigned his position.

A somewhat related situation has existed at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, where the teaching of Dr. John A. Rice, Professor of Old Testament Interpretation, has created the severe opposition of a large part of his church. Dr. Rice's book, "The Old Testament in the Life of Today," looks upon the Old Testament as a series of independent historical papers, each subject to its own interpretation. Many are considered as having been revised by several authors before they have reached their present form. Each is regarded as a literary production, subject to all of the rules of literary interpretation; this introduces a personal factor into any understanding of the Old Testament, and completely does away with literal interpretations. Dr. Rice has also left his position, to become pastor of a Methodist church in another state.

S. A. R.

At Columbia University, the following promotions in psychology have been announced: Dr. H. L. Hollingworth to a full professorship at Barnard College; Dr. Arthus I. Gates, Dr. William A. McCall and Dr. Leta S. Hollingworth to associate professorships at Teachers College; Dr. A. T. Poffenberger to an associate professorship at Columbia University.